Hqrs. where, *inter alia*, it was decided that the Army would prepare an action plan to bring all ammunition under proper and standard cover within two years and senior officers will be sent to all Ammunition Depots to inspect the safety and security of the Depots and prevent a recurrence of such an incident in the future.

Purchase of T-90 Tanks

323. SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the deal with Russia to purchase hundred T-90 main battle tanks has been finalised;

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) what is the response of Russia; and

(d) by when, it is likely to be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Price Negotiation Committee has not yet concluded negotiations with the Russian side. The procurement can be finalised only after negotiations are concluded.

Recruitment of Youths from Gujarat in Army

324. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Army Recruitment Camps are held in Ahmedabad for recruitment of youths from Gujarat in the Army;

(b) the number of vacancies to be filled up from Gujarat in such a recent Camp held in middle of June, 2000;

(c) the number of persons who turned up for recruitment; and

(d) whether requisite number of recruits were selected or not?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There were no fixed vacancies for this rally. Recruitment in a rally depends on response and number of candidates passing the examination.

(c) and (d) Details of candidates screened and selected in the recruitment